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## **Small Business PCS Association** 96 Hillbrook Drive Portola Valley, CA 94028

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April 29, 1994

Ms. Donna R. Searcy Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222 Washington, D.C. 20554

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RE: PP Docket No. 93-253/Ex Parte Presentations

Dear Ms. Searcy:

On March 14, 1994 I met with the following decision makers at the FCC:

Hon. Reed Hundt Hon. Andrew Barrett Hon. James Quello Mr. Brion Fontes Mr. John Winston

Attached is a copy of the main issues discussed.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Ky

Chairman

Enclosure

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## **SBPCS Position on Auction Rules**

## Robert Kyle, Chairman Small Business PCS Association

March 14, 1994

96 Hillbrook Drive, Portola Valley, CA 94028 415-851-1615 FAX: 415-851-1870

- Represent a Major Opportunity for Hundreds of Small, Womanand Minority-Owned Businesses and Rural Telco's
  - The Only Way of Meeting the Intent of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 for SWMRs
- 20 MHz (Block C) Set Aside Allows Full Competition with the MTAs and Cellular Companies (even with less spectrum)
- 10 MHz (Block D) Set Aside Provides a Good Voice or Data Service (but not both)

- A Small Business Operating a Single BTA Can Compete Effectively with Large Businesses Operating Larger Service Areas
  - All Will Operate Under the Future US Standards for PCS (due to be complete in May 1994)
  - Economies Of Scale Have Diminishing Returns after 100,000 Subscribers (the most cost effective switch size)
  - SBPCS Will Form Large Buying Consortia Especially for Small Business
  - SBPCS Will Form a National Roaming Network for Small Business

- Upfront Payment
  - 2¢ per MHz per POP Will Help Control Speculators
  - Refundable to a SWMR that Is Later Disqualified
  - If not High Bidder, Payment Reuseable For Other Licenses
- 20% Payment
  - Onerous for Small Business
  - Should Be Eliminated for SWMRs
- The Same Financing Terms Available for a Set Aside License Should Be Available for Any License Acquired by a SWMR
- Payment Schedule
  - Payments Over Full License Term (10 years for PCS)
  - First Payment Due in 2 Years
  - Then Quarterly Payments 0.5% of License Price thru Year 5
  - Then Balance Amortized in Equal Payments thru Year 10

- In Any Geographic Region No One Class of License Holder Should Be Given an Advantage Over Any Other
  - Once the First MTA is Auctioned, All Component BTAs
    Should Be Auctioned Next
  - Otherwise the MTA License Holders Would Obtain Their Licenses Before Their BTA Competition and Have an Unfair Head Start
- Combined Bids for BTAs
  - Transforms BTA Bidding into Another Large Company Auction Like the MTAs
  - Unworkable since 491 BTAs Generate a Staggering Number of Combinations
  - Should not Be Allowed on Either a Frequency or Geographic Basis

- Must Be A Small Business
  - Less than \$6 million in Net Worth
  - Less than \$2 million in Profit After Tax
  - Less than \$40 million in Sales
- Use Number of Access Lines as the Standard for Rural Telco's
- Minorities and Woman Owned Businesses
  - Considered Under the Small Business Standard
  - Provide with Tax Credits (with legal clearance)
- For Consortia Bidding
  - 90% of the Consortia Must be SWMRs
    (since each SWMR can be 49% owned by non-SWMRs)
  - No non-SWMR Purchase Options Allowed that Would Reduce SWMR Interest to Less than 90% in 3 Years

- SWMRs Need Financing Terms for Equipment Purchase
- Financial Institutions Want Security Interest in License as Collateral
- Necessary for SWMRs to Finance Infrastructure Costs